GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1663
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
GUIDELINES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending for environmental clearance for leasing out mining areas in order to set up industries based on mining;

(b) the reasons for their pendency;

(c) whether any guidelines have been set for giving clearance in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Three hundred and fifty five proposals relating to grant of environmental clearance for mining of major minerals with lease area of more than 5 hectare are pending with the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(b) The reasons for their pendency inter-alia include large influx of proposals as a follow-up of the directions issued by Hon`ble Supreme Court / High Courts and submission of inadequate information / data along with the proposal.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 1994 as amended from time to time has prescribed guidelines and procedures for submission of applications in the prescribed format along with requisite documents, procedure for conduct of public hearing and environmental appraisal of projects through a multi disciplinary Expert Committee constituted for the purpose.

(e) The EIA Notification has prescribed a time limit of 90 days, from the date of receipt of requisite information, for appraising the project and 30 days thereafter for communicating the decision thereon.